

KARAKURIDŌJI **ULTIMO**

original concept: **STAN LEE**
story and art by: **HIROYUKI TAKEI**
inker: **DAIGO**
painter: **BOB**





KARAKURIDÔJI

ULTIMO

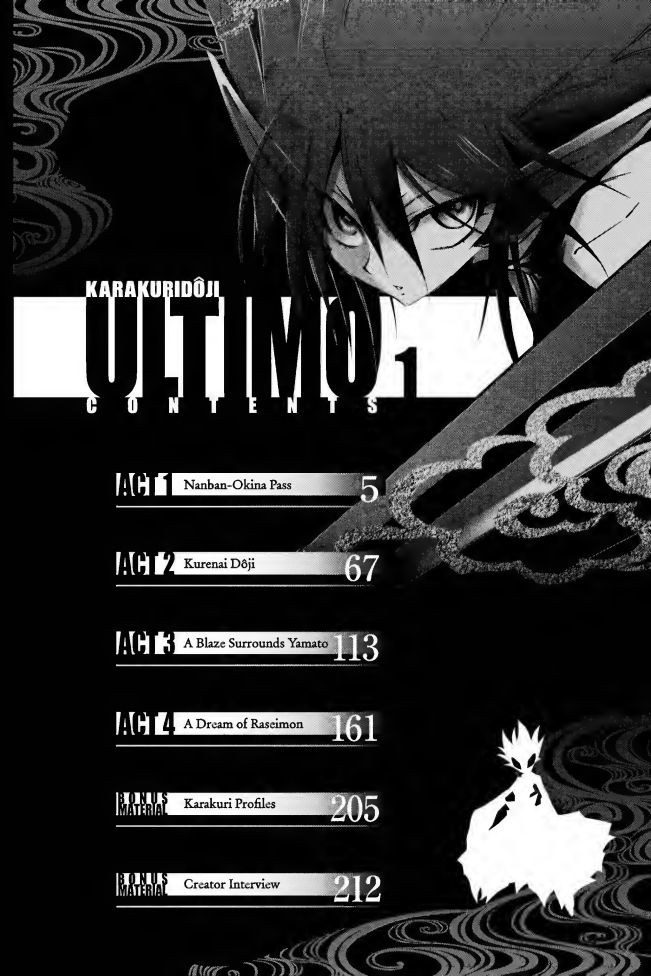
WHAT?



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KARAKURIDÔJI

ULTIMO 1

C O N T E N T S

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靈

HEART
IS WHERE
THE
SPIRIT
OF GOOD
OR EVIL
LIES.

劍

SUPERIOR
STRENGTH
IS A
SWORD
THAT
MANIFESTS
ONE'S
WILL.

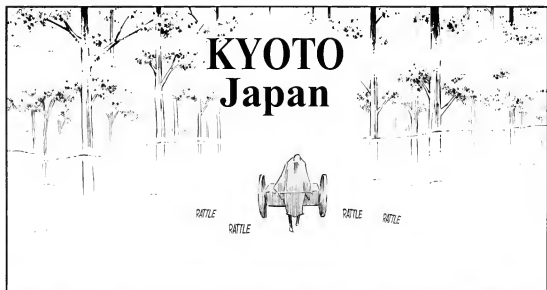
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PUPPETS
ARE
MIRRORS
THAT
REFLECT
MORE
THAN
THEIR
HUMAN
CREATORS.



ACT 1
NANBAN-OKINA PASS

KARAKURIDÔJI
ULTIMO



YES?

WHO
IS THIS
GUY?!

GAH



DUNSTAN...?
A FOREIGNER.
ARE YOU A
NANBAN TRADER
HEADED FOR
THE CAPITAL?

MY NAME
IS DUNSTAN.

TCH!
YOU'RE
ODD,
OLD MAN.
WHO ARE
YOU?

WHUMP

WHAT A
LUXURIOUS
CART. THE
GOODS INSIDE
MUST BE GIFTS
FOR THE HIGH
NOBILITY.

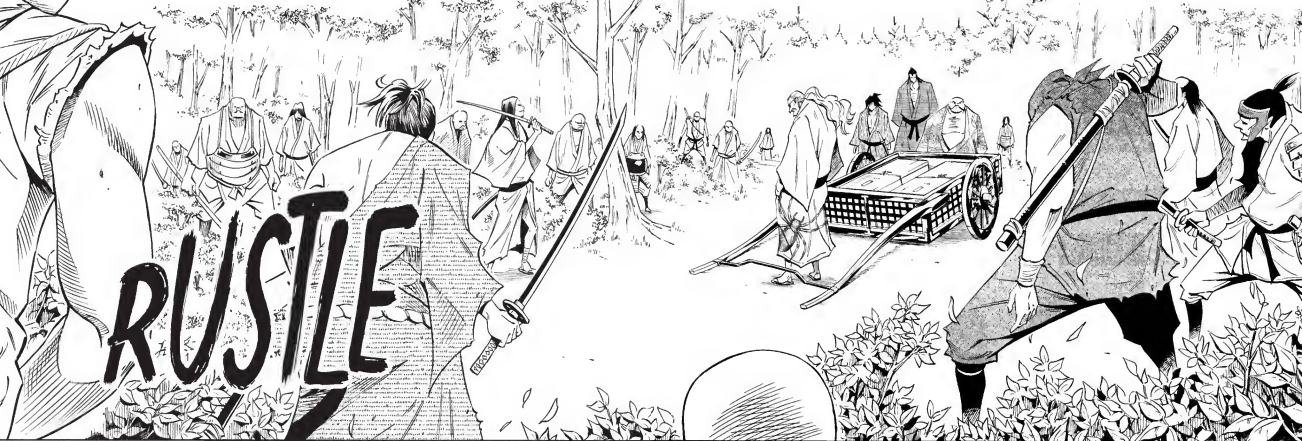
AND
WHO
ARE
YOU?

THEY
MIGHT
BE.

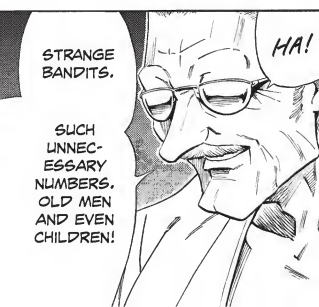
I'M A
BANDIT.

HEY

I'M
YAMATO.



WE WON'T
KILL YOU IF
YOU DON'T
START ANY
TROUBLE.



STRANGE
BANDITS.

SUCH
UNNEC-
ESSARY
NUMBERS.
OLD MEN
AND EVEN
CHILDREN!



DON'T
TRY TO
RUN IF
YOU WANT
TO LIVE.



HEH
HEH...

SORRY,
OLD MAN.
WE'RE
GOING
TO HAVE
YOU LEAVE
THOSE
WITH US.



I HAVE
CREATED
THEM.
THEY ARE
EQUAL TO
EACH OTHER.
NOTHING
LIKE THEM
HAS EVER
EXISTED.

YOU
REALLY
OUGHT
NOT TO
TOUCH
THESE...

THEY ARE *ULTIMATE*
MECHANICAL BOYS.
FIVE SENSES REACH
INTO FIVE DIMENSIONS
AND FOUR LIMBS EXTEND
INTO FOUR DIMENSIONS.
THAT ADDS UP TO THE
POWER OF NINE
DIMENSIONS.

IF YOU
WAKE THEM,
YOU *WILL*
ALL DIE.

SHING

OH,
REALLY?

THEIR SHODDY
GOVERNMENT
HAS COST US
OUR HOMES,
OUR FAMILIES...

SORRY,
BUT I DON'T
CARE WHAT
YOU'VE GOT.

WE
HATE THE
NOBILITY.

FROM NOW ON,
WE'RE TAKING
IT ALL BACK.

WE ARE HERE
TO MAKE SURE
THEY CAN'T HAVE
ANYTHING ELSE.

I SEE.
YOU'RE
DUTY
BANDITS.

DRIP

機巧童子
VICE

BUT
THEY
ARE
ULTIMATE
GOOD
AND
EVIL.

機巧童子
ULTIMO



GOOD WON'T
FORGIVE YOU.
AND NO AMOUNT
OF REASONING
WILL WORK
ON EVIL.

AND WHILE
DUTY BANDITS
MAY IN ESSENCE
BE WORKING FOR
THE GREATER
GOOD, EVIL
IS EVIL.



...IT'S ALL THE
MORE REASON
YOU SHOULDN'T
DO ANYTHING SO
FOOLISH AS TO
UNDO THE ROPE
ON THESE BOXES
AND OPEN THE
LIDS.

IF YOU WANT
TO PROTECT
YOURSELVES...



DON'T BE
AFRAID!

HUBBUB

...?!

BOSS...?

YOU AN IDIOT?
NOTHING IS
ULTIMATE OR
GOOD OR *EVIL*.
YOU'VE GOT IT
ALL WRONG.

KEH!
THE OLD
MAN'S
BLUFFING!

*ULTIMATE
GOOD
AND EVIL?*

ALL
RIGHT,
MEN.

I SAY
OPEN
UP THE
BOXES
RIGHT
NOW.

BUT YOU
TALK SO
MUCH...
YOU MUST
HAVE
SOMETHING
VALUABLE
IN THERE.

SMIRK



ONE...
TWO...







DOLLS
...?

D...



BUT,
BOSS...

B...

...

HA HA HA!
I THOUGHT
SOMETHING
WOULD LEAP
OUT AT ME.
BUT THEY'RE
JUST DOLLS!

I KNEW
YOU WERE
JUST
BLUFFING,
YOU TRICKY
OLD MAN!

...
THESE
ARE
REALLY
FINE
GOODS.

AND THE
GAUNTLETS
HAVE BEEN
DYED IN
MULTIPLE
LAYERS AND
GIVE OUT A
RICH COLOR!

THE
CLOTHES
HAVE BEEN
WOVEN FROM
HIGH-QUALITY
FABRIC,
AND THEY
SPARKLE.

THE SKIN IS
WHITE AND
SMOOTH LIKE
CERAMIC.

NO MATTER
WHERE I LOOK,
IT'S FIRST-CLASS
CRAFTSMANSHIP
SUCH AS I'VE
NEVER SEEN.

BESIDES,
MORE THAN
ANYTHING
ELSE...

...SUCH
INCREDIBLE
BEAUTY,
LIKE A
CHERUB...



...SUCH
INCREDIBLE
STRENGTH,
LIKE A
BRAVE AND
GALLANT
HERO!!!





THEY
LOOK
REAL.

CHATTER

SO
PRETTY

CHATTER

WE COULD
GET A GOOD
PRICE FOR
THESE!

THEY LOOK
LIKE THEY'LL
START MOVING
ON THEIR OWN
AT ANY MOMENT!



HA HA HA!
WHAT AN
HONOR!

HOW NICE,
HUH, OLD
MAN? YOUR
DOLLS
HAVE MADE
A GOOD
IMPRES-
SION.



...THEY'RE
NOT DOLLS.
THEY'RE
MECHANICAL
BOYS.

HOW-
EVER...



ULTIMO...

WELL,
YOU'VE
GONE AND
OPENED THE
FORBIDDEN
BOXES.

THEY WILL
NOW BE
AWAKENED
AND BEGIN
TO FULFILL
THEIR
DESTINIES.

HUH?

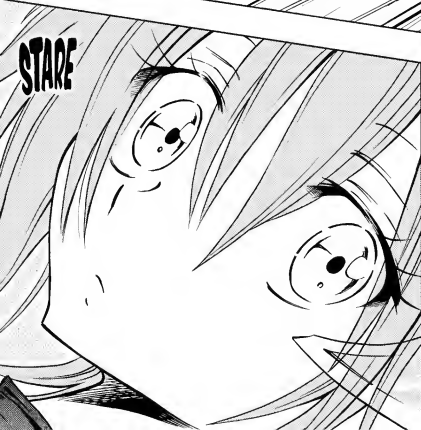
...DO YOU
THINK
OF HIM?

BLINK

WHAT...



STARE



ITS
EYES
OPENED!



GIVEN WHAT'S
HAPPENED TO
HIM, THERE'S
PLENTY OF
ROOM FOR
LENIENCY.

LOOKING BACK
THROUGH HIS
MEMORIES, HE
HASN'T DONE
ANYTHING
THAT EVIL.

...

DR.
DUNSTAN...

STILL,
HE'S A
LITTLE
TOO
VIOLENT
TO BE
ULTI'S
MASTER.

I TOLD
YOU NOT
TO BE
AFRAID!

WAAAAAGH

GAAAAAH!
THE DOLL
SPEAKS AND
MOVES
AND EVEN
CRITICIZES!

UGH

YOU KEEP
CHILDREN IN
BOXES?

INSANE
OLD MAN!
WHAT ARE
YOU UP TO?

SURELY YOU
WEREN'T GOING
TO GIVE THESE
CHILDREN TO
THE NOBILITY...
WERE YOU?

NO,
THEY
LOOKED
LIKE
DOLLS...

...
CHILDREN?

DON'T BE
STUPID.

RUSTLE



I AM A
KARAKURI
DÔJI! A
MECHANICAL
BOY!

I'M
NOT
A KID
OR A
DOLL.

AND I DO
NOT WISH TO
BE AWAKENED
BY THE LIKES
OF YOU!

YOU
ANGER ME.
FOR THAT,
YOU DIE!



NOW
THE RED
ONE. GET
EVERYBODY
OUTTA
HERE FAST!
PLEASE!



THOSE
ARE CLAWS,
SOME
KIND OF
WEAPONS!



NO MORE
MESSING
AROUND,
BOSS.
SOMETHING'S
WRONG WITH
THOSE
DOLLS!

FOOL!
YOU ACT
ONLY
ON MY
ORDER!

THE
RED
ONE?



TH...



WE DON'T
ATTACK
CHILDREN!

OUR
ENEMY
IS THE
NOBIL-
ITY!

TIME TO
LISTEN,
FOOL!

I TOLD
YOU, I'M
NOT A KID!





HUH
...?



HEH HEH...
YOU CAN
HAVE
THESE
BACK.



EVEN
THOUGH
ALL
THOSE
ARROWS
HIT IT!

IT'S
ALIVE...



GYAAAAAH!
IT'S NOT
HUUUU...



FWSH

THRAACH!!!

SLASH

AND
THOSE
CLAWS...
NO...
WHAT'S
WORSE...

HE
KNOCKED
THEM
UP TO
THE TOP
OF THE
TREE
WITH ONE
KICK...

IT
JUMPED
...?





DOWN BELOW,
SEVEN MA
AWAY, ONE
HIDES IN THE
SHADOWS.



UP ABOVE,
12 MA AWAY,
TWO HIDE IN
THE BRANCHES.



ANNOYING.
I'LL JUST
TAKE THEM
ALL OUT
FROM UP
HERE.

...IT'S
FLYING.



NOW...

...FOR THE
OTHER
THREE
FOOLS
WHO FIRED
ARROWS
AT ME.





...100
TIMES
EACH!

KARAKURI
HENGE!
ONI MEN!!
DEMON
MASK!!!



I'LL
...



...
CUT
...



...
EVERY-
ONE...



THIS
CHILD...



WHAT'S
HAPPENING?



NONE
OF THAT
MATTERS...

(-)



ULTIMATE...
GOOD...
EVIL...

THE OLD
MAN...



...ARE
DEAD...

MY
PEOPLE...



YIIIIIKES!

NYAH!

YOU'RE
THE
FOOL
WHO
WOKE
ME.

YOU.

YOU'LL
BE LAST.
FIRST
WATCH AS
I KILL
YOUR
COMPAN-
IONS.

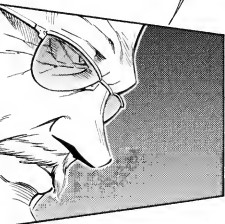
I WON'T
LET YOU.



I WILL
STOP
YOU.

A CHILD
IS NO
MATCH
FOR ME!

YOU
WILL BE
PUNISHED.



BOSS...

B...



YOU MAY
BE A FOOL,
BUT YOU
ARE NOT A
COWARD.

HUH?

YOU SAY
THIS EVEN
AFTER
WATCHING
ME WORK?

'CAUSE I
OPENED
ONE
OF THE
BOXES.

I'LL
FIGHT
TOO.

SHING

! WELL,
AREN'T
YOU ASKING
YOURSELF
THE SAME
THING?

HOW
ARE YOU
GOING
TO FIGHT
AGAINST
THAT?!

HUUU!
N!

WE'RE
BETTER
IF WE ACT
TOGETHER!

YOU DON'T
GO AT THIS
ALONE.
NOT GONNA
HAPPEN.

SHING



WE
HAVE NO
CHOICE.

I'LL
FIGHT
TOO.

SIX OF OUR
COMRADES
ARE DEAD.



THIS
IS MY
HOME.

...

EVEN IF
I RAN,
WHERE
WOULD
I GO?



LIVING LIKE
THIS EVERY
DAY IS MORE
TERRIFYING
THAN THAT
BOY.

IT
DOESN'T
SEEM
REAL.

IT'S
STRANGE,
BUT
I'M NOT
AFRAID!



HEY BOSS,
WHAT ABOUT
THE AMAZING
KARAKURI
DŌJI?

YOU
FOOLS...

IF WE STOLE
THAT ONE
FOR OUR SIDE,
WE COULD
EASILY BEAT
THE NOBILITY.

I DON'T
KNOW HOW
THOSE
DOLLS
WORK,
BUT WE'RE
BANDITS,
RIGHT?



YOU
MUSTN'T...

'CAUSE
IT'S
PRETTY.

BESIDES,
SHE
SAYS
SHE
WANTS
IT.



HEY!

NO!
JUST
GET
OUT
OF
HERE!

WHUMP





...AT YOUR
RIDICULOUS
SHOW OF
LOYALTY.
IT ANGERS
ME.

I'M...

...
AMAZED
...

I'M GOING
TO KILL
YOU NOW.

KARAKURI
HENGE!

SHISHI
GUCHI!!
MOUTH
OF THE
LION!!!

WHACK

SHISHI-
MAI!
DANCE
OF THE
LION!!



-tweet-

...

VICE.
ENOUGH.

HUNH?!

THE
RED
ONE
HELPED
ME?

YOU
ALREADY
KILLED
SIX.

I WILL
NOT ALLOW
ANY MORE
MEANINGLESS
SLAUGHTER.

NO MORE
OF THEM...



...OR
I WILL
BREAK
YOU.



HEH
HEH.



WELL,
NOW...

WHEN DID
YOU TAKE
THE SIDE OF
BANDITS?



311-30!

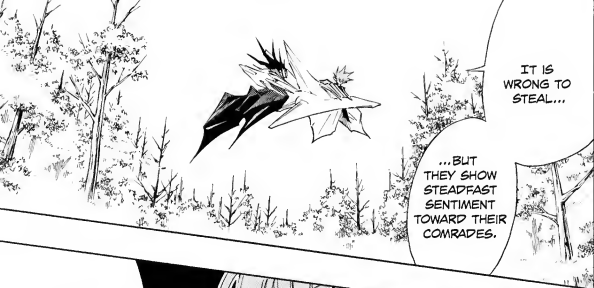


I KNOW YOUR
EVERY MOVE.
YOUR ATTACKS
WON'T WORK
ON ME.

IT'S
NO
USE,
VICE.

KARAKURI
HENGE!
KOGUCHI!!

MOUTH
OF THE
FOX!!



IT IS
WRONG TO
STEAL...

...BUT
THEY SHOW
STEADFAST
SENTIMENT
TOWARD THEIR
COMRADES.



...IS THE
HEART OF
GOODNESS
AND DOESN'T
DESERVE TO
BE KILLED.

AND
SENTI-
MENT...



BE
QUIET!

I'M **EVIL**.
YOU THINK
I CARE?



H...

WHAT DID
YOU THINK
WOULD
HAPPEN IF
YOU WOKE
THEM UP
TOGETHER?

OF
COURSE.

THEY ARE
ULTIMATE
GOOD
AND *EVIL*.
THEY DO
NOT MIX,
LIKE WATER
AND OIL.

HEY!
WHAT'S
GOING ON,
OLD MAN?
THEY'RE
FIGHTING
EACH
OTHER!

EVERYONE
WILL DIE.

A SERIOUS
BATTLE
BETWEEN
THEM WILL
LEAVE
NOTHING
BUT WASTE
BEHIND.

NO ONE
CAN STOP
THEM NOW.

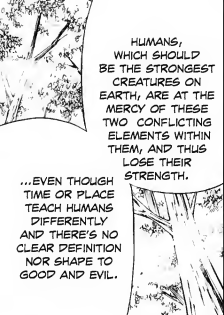
NOT
EVEN I.

THE SOLE
REASON
I MADE
THEM...

I DO
NOT WISH
TO STOP
THEM.

HUH?!

...WAS TO
KNOW WHICH
IS STRONGER,
GOOD OR EVIL.



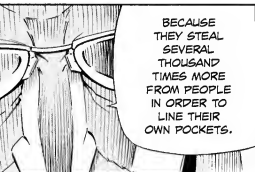
HUMANS,
WHICH SHOULD
BE THE STRONGEST
CREATURES ON
EARTH, ARE AT THE
MERCY OF THESE
TWO CONFLICTING
ELEMENTS WITHIN
THEM, AND THUS
LOSE THEIR
STRENGTH.

...EVEN THOUGH
TIME OR PLACE
TEACH HUMANS
DIFFERENTLY
AND THERE'S NO
CLEAR DEFINITION
NOR SHAPE TO
GOOD AND EVIL.



BUT THE
OBSTACLE TO
THAT HAS
ALWAYS BEEN...
GOOD AND EVIL.

I AM A
SCHOLAR.
I'VE LONG
SOUGHT THE
ULTIMATE
STRENGTH.



BECAUSE
THEY STEAL
SEVERAL
THOUSAND
TIMES MORE
FROM PEOPLE
IN ORDER TO
LINE THEIR
OWN POCKETS.



...!



THE WORLD
VIEWS THE
ACTIONS OF
BANDITS
AS *EVIL*,
BUT TO
THE *GOOD*
AUTHORITIES
THOSE ACTIONS
ARE ACTUALLY
TRIFLING.

STRANGE, YET
FRUSTRATING,
EH?



THE ANSWERS
TO WHY PEOPLE
LIVE IN CHAINS
LIE DEEPER
WITHIN THEIR
HUMAN SOULS.

SO WHAT
SEPARATES
GOOD
AND *EVIL*?
WHETHER
PEOPLE
ACCEPT
THEM OR
NOT? NO.

...ULTIMATE
KARAKURI DŌJI,
MECHANICAL BOYS
POSSESSING BOTH
AN UNWAVERING
SOUL AND
UNYIELDING
STRENGTH.

SO I BROKE
DOWN A SINGLE
SOUL AND
SUCCESSFULLY
GAVE LIFE TO...

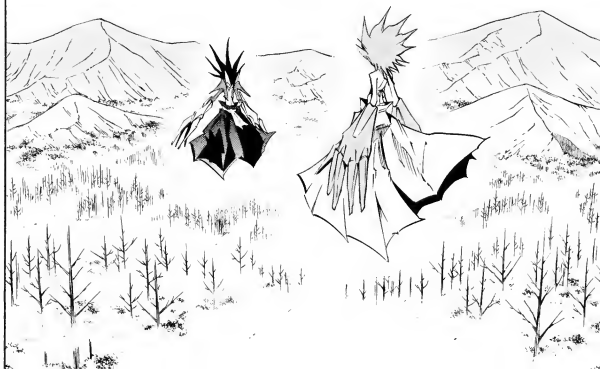
機
械
除
魔
用

本
作
の
主
人
公
は
機
械
人
偶
で
あ
る
こ
の
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CONTAINED
WITHIN IS
THE PURE
SPIRIT
OF GOOD
OR EVIL.

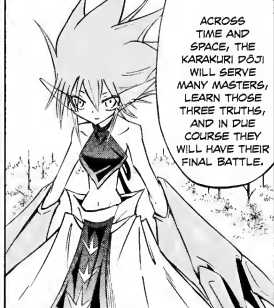
SUPERIOR
STRENGTH IS A
SWORD THAT
MANIFESTS
ONE'S WILL.

PUPPETS
ARE MIRRORS
THAT REFLECT
MUCH MORE
THAN THEIR
HUMAN
CREATORS.

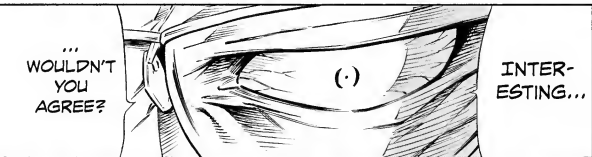




WHICH WILL WIN,
GOOD OR EVIL?
WHAT INFLUENCE
WILL THE RESULT
HAVE OVER
HUMANITY?



ACROSS
TIME AND
SPACE, THE
KARAKURI DŌJŌ
WILL SERVE
MANY MASTERS,
LEARN THOSE
THREE TRUTHS,
AND IN DUE
COURSE THEY
WILL HAVE THEIR
FINAL BATTLE.



...
WOULDN'T
YOU
AGREE?

INTER-
ESTING...



THE
STRONGEST
BEING?
WHY
WOULD
YOU DO
THIS?

I
DON'T...

...
UNDER-
STAND!



NOTHING
GOOD CAN
COME FROM
LETTING A
CRAZY OLD
MAN LIKE
YOU LIVE.

I UNDERSTAND
ONLY THIS.

HE'S
GONE?!

H...

I DO
NOT DIE.

I LOOK
FORWARD TO
SEEING HOW
YOU FARE
IN ALL THIS--
YOU WHO
OPENED THE
BOXES!

HA HA HA HA!
NOW THEIR
TRUE FIGHT
BEGINS!

FWSH

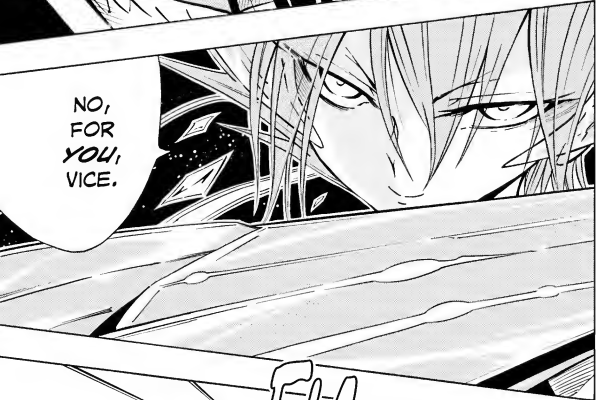
DADU M

ULTIMO.

?!!



THIS IS
THE END
FOR YOU.

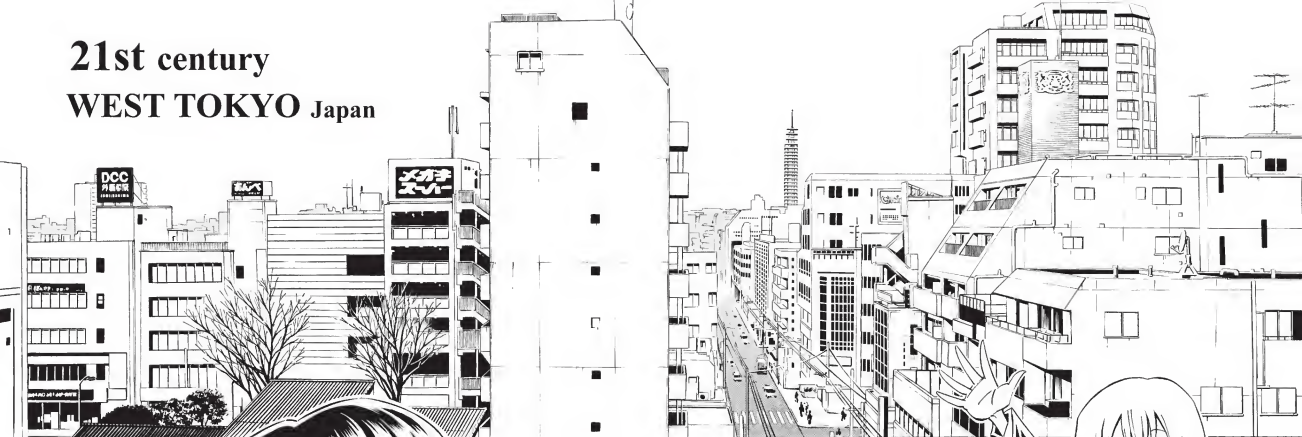


NO,
FOR
YOU,
VICE.

FLASH



21st century WEST TOKYO Japan



HUH?
OH, RUNE?
YOU'RE
AWFULLY
ENERGETIC
FOR SO
EARLY
IN THE
MORNING.



YOUR
HEIGHT
ALWAYS
GIVES
YOU
AWAY!

AS TALL
AS EVER!



AAGH?!

GOOD
MORNING,
YAMATO!



YOU WERE
ALL EXCITED
ABOUT GIVING
SAYAMA A
PRESENT.

THE
BIRTHDAY
PARTY'S
TONIGHT.

AW, MAN!
DID YOU
FORGET?

DID
SOMETHING
GOOD
HAPPEN?

2502

FWUMP

HOW
DID I
FORGET?

GAH!





NO, NO,
I'LL BE
THERE!
I'M JUST
NOT A
MORNING
PERSON!

I HOPE YOU
AREN'T SICK.
SO YOU CAN
COME TO
MY PARTY...

YOU'RE
WEIRD.

SHE'S SO
BEAUTIFUL!

S-
SAYAMA!

BADUMP



CAN'T WAIT
TO SEE
WHAT YOU
BRING.

BUT I'M
GLAD YOU
CAN COME.



I HAVE
NO IDEA.

WHAT
SHOULD
I DO?
HOW DID I
TOTALLY
FORGET,
RUNE?

NEITHER
DO I!

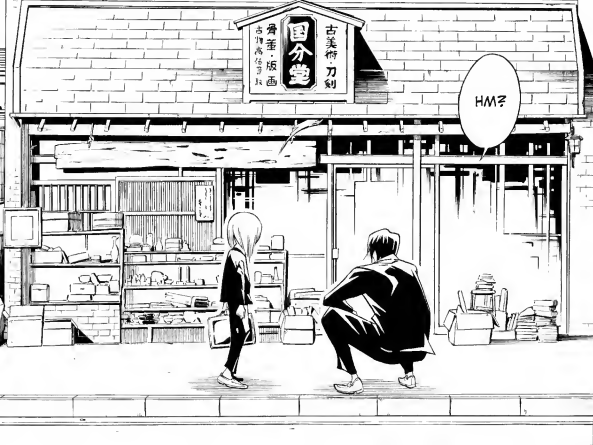


UHH,
I LIKE
HER SO
MUCH!

YEAH!

I'LL TELL
YOU RIGHT NOW,
I DON'T HAVE
ENOUGH MONEY
ON ME TO LEND
YOU ANY...

SO...
WHAT
WILL
YOU
BRING?



I DON'T
USUALLY GET
STUDENTS
IN HERE.

OH,
HELLO,
WEL-
COME!

...THE
SHOP
ISN'T
OPEN
YET.

BUT,
SORRY...

HM?

HE WON'T BUY
YOUR BAG.
C'MON, WE
GOTTA GET
TO SCHOOL!

NO! NO!





KARAKURIDÔJI
ULTIMO



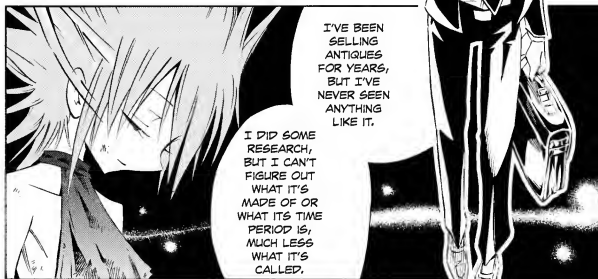
ACT.2 KURENAI DÔJI







ACT 2
KURENAI DÔJI



...THIS CHILD
FELL FROM
THE SKY.

JUDGING
FROM THE
CRATER...



NO
WAY!

ANYWAY,
YOU CAN'T
JUST PUT
SOMETHING
YOU FIND LIKE
THAT IN YOUR
STORE!

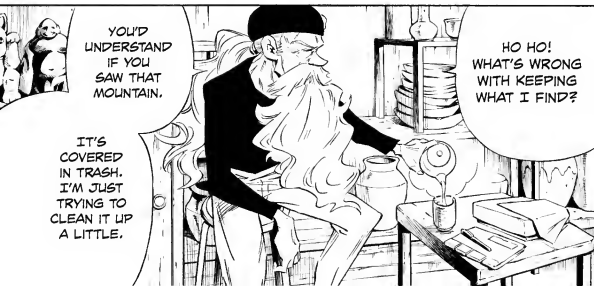
SERIOUS?
WOW!



YOU'D
UNDERSTAND
IF YOU
SAW THAT
MOUNTAIN.

IT'S
COVERED
IN TRASH.
I'M JUST
TRYING TO
CLEAN IT UP
A LITTLE.

HO HO!
WHAT'S WRONG
WITH KEEPING
WHAT I FIND?





ONLY LAWS ARE
GETTING STRICTER.
FOOLS THINK AS
LONG AS NO ONE
FINDS OUT, IT
DOESN'T MATTER
WHAT THEY DO.

PEOPLE
TODAY
DON'T TAKE
CARE OF
ANYTHING.



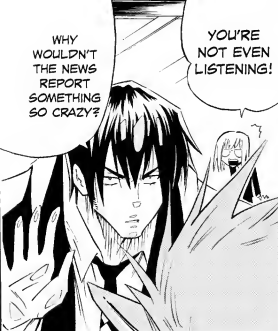
I PICKED OUT
ALL THESE
TREASURES WITH
MY OWN EYES
AND GATHERED
THEM ALL HERE
ON MY OWN.

LOOK
AT THIS
SHOP.



IN NO TIME
AT ALL, YOU'LL
SIMPLY BE UNDER
SOMEONE ELSE'S
CONTROL.

YOU
SHOULDN'T
RELY ON
OTHERS TO
HELP YOU
DETERMINE
WHAT'S
GOOD AND
WHAT'S
BAD.

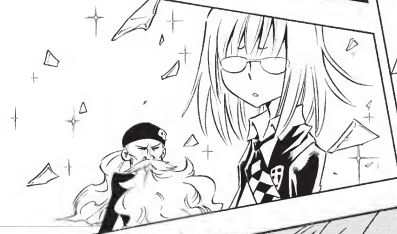


YOU'RE NOT EVEN LISTENING!



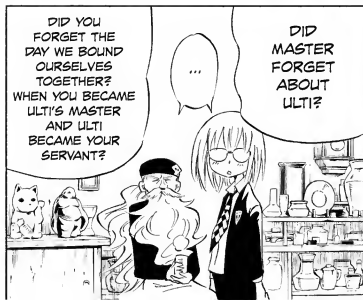


ULTIMO
MISSED
YOU
VERY
MUCH!



NINE
CENTURIES,
YAMATO-
SAMA!





HOW
LONG
HAVE
YOU
KNOWN
ME,
RUNE?!

YOU
THINK
I HAVE
ANY
IDEA?!

YAMATO,
WHAT'S HE
TALKING
ABOUT...?

WHOA...

...WHO
IS THIS
BOY?

THEN...

IT WOULD
HAVE BEEN
A MIRACLE
FOR YOU TO BE
REINCARNATED
AND STILL
REMEMBER
ULTI'S NAME.

I UNDER-
STAND.

WHO
IS THIS
BOY?!

WHO'S
THIS
BOY?!

YES.

WITHOUT A
DOUBT YOU ARE
THE YAMATO WHO
I MET IN THE 12TH
CENTURY.

REINCAR-
NATED?!



THAT'S THE ONLY
RESTRICTION
PLACED ON WE
WHO WERE MADE
TO BE ULTIMATE
GOOD AND EVIL.

UNTIL WE LEARN
EVERYTHING FROM
OUR MASTER, WE
ARE TO OBEY HIM,
PROTECT HIM,
AND FIGHT ONLY
FOR HIM.

AT THE
VERY
LEAST,
WHAT
I CAN
SAY FOR
CERTAIN
NOW...

BECAUSE THE
SOURCE OF POWER
FOR KARAKURI DÔJI
SUCH AS ULTI IS
THEIR PLEDGE OF
DEVOTION TO THEIR
LORD AND MASTER.



...IS THAT
ULTI WOKE
UP BECAUSE
YOU CAME
WITHIN HIS
RANGE.



...BUT
RIGHT
NOW I
HAVE
URGENT
NEWS.

I WOULD
LOVE TO
TALK IT
OVER AT
LEISURE...



YOUR
RANGE?!



VICE HAS
APPEARED
IN THIS TIME
PERIOD.

A KARAKURI
DÔJI OF EVIL
WHO LIKES
DESTRUCTION
AND CARNAGE.

ULTI'S
OPPOSITE.



VICE...?



YES.



HE FLED FOR
HIS LIFE ACROSS
TIME AND SPACE,
AND YOU FOLLOWED.
NOW WITH YOU
REINCARNATED IN
THE HERE AND NOW,
WITHOUT A DOUBT,
HE WILL COME
FOR YOU.

YAMATO-SAMA'S
ORDERS DROVE
VICE AWAY. THE
GRUDGE HE
BEARS KNOWS
NO END.



HE WILL
INDEED
BE HIDING
SOMEWHERE
NEARBY
ALREADY.



...YAMATO-SAMA
AND THIS ENTIRE
WORLD WILL MEET
A TERRIBLE FATE.

IF WE
DON'T FIND
AND DEFEAT
HIM BEFORE
HE FINDS A
MASTER AND
REGAINS HIS
POWER...



...I NEED TO
CONCENTRATE
ON WHAT'S
IMPORTANT,
WHICH IS
GETTING A
PRESENT FOR
SAYAMA.

I'M
SORRY,
BUT...

DAWN

...A CRUSH ON
HER SINCE
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL. I
CAN'T SCREW
THIS UP.

High
School

I'VE
HAD
...

Elementary
School

Junior
High

YOU'RE
CAUSING
TROUBLE.
YOU'RE
DRESSED
FUNNY...



I DON'T KNOW
WHAT KIND OF GAME
THIS KARAWHATSIT
DOSOMETHING IS,
BUT YOU SHOULDN'T
BREAK GLASS.



YAMATO-
SAMA...



RIGHT?

REALLY...

...I JUST
FOUND HIM
ON THE
GROUND.



AND YOU,
GRAMPS!

WHAT
ARE YOU
THINKING?!

BEFORE
YOU PLAY
WITH YOUR
GRANDCHILD,
GET YOUR
OWN ACT
TOGETHER!



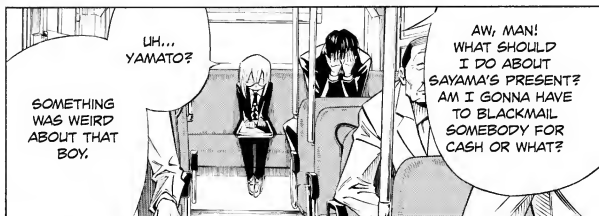
EVERY TIME
I RUSH
SOMETHING
IT'S ALWAYS
A DISASTER.

WHAT A
WASTE
OF TIME!



SIGH

SHEESH!
THAT WAS A
MESS-UP
ANTIQUE
SHOP!



UH...
YAMATO?

SOMETHING
WAS WEIRD
ABOUT THAT
BOY.

AW, MAN!
WHAT SHOULD
I DO ABOUT
SAYAMA'S PRESENT?
AM I GONNA HAVE
TO BLACKMAIL
SOMEBODY FOR
CASH OR WHAT?



...AND YOU
SAID ULTIMO,
BUT THAT'S
NOT EVEN THE
WEIRDEST
THING.

SURE,
WHEN WE
WENT IN
I SAID
YOUR
NAME...

...BUT
AFTER HE
HUGGED
YOU, HE
WAS ALL
CLEAN AND
SHINY...

FIRST HE
WAS ALL
BEAT-UP
AND DIRTY...

DID
YOU
SEE?

AND MOST
OF ALL...

NO, IT
WAS
MORE
THAN
A WOW
FACTOR!

UM, IT'S
JUST YOUR
IMAGINATION.
THERE WASN'T
ANY WOW
FACTOR TO
THAT GUY
AT ALL.

...HE WAS
ONLY A PUPPET
WHEN WE WERE
LOOKING AT HIM.
NO WAY HE WAS
A REAL KID.

MAYBE.

...



ACTUALLY,
NOW I DO
HAVE THIS
OTHER NAME
IN MY HEAD
TOO.



I DON'T
WANT
ANY PART
OF THIS.

MAYBE?!
WHY--



DUNSTAN!!

...I KNEW
NOTHING
GOOD
WAS GOING
TO COME
OF IT.

AS SOON
AS I
LOOKED
AT HIM...

BUT,
YAMATO...

...

AND SAYAMA
HAS NOTHING
TO DO WITH
THIS MESS
EITHER.

I MEAN,
I'M NOT
REINCARNATED.
COME ON.
BUT I STILL
DON'T WANT
ANYTHING
TO DO WITH
HIM.

...BECAUSE I
KNOW BETTER
THAN ANYONE
ELSE HOW,
IF SOMETHING
HAPPENED,
YOU'RE THE
TYPE WHO
COULDN'T LET
IT ALONE.

...I'M
WORRIED...

YOU'RE
ALREADY
INVOLVED...

TOO
BAD.



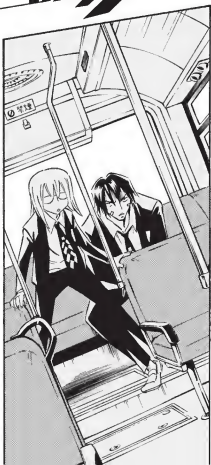
YOU
WERE
LOOKING
FOR A
GIFT AND
FOUND
ME.



KARAKURI
HENGE!

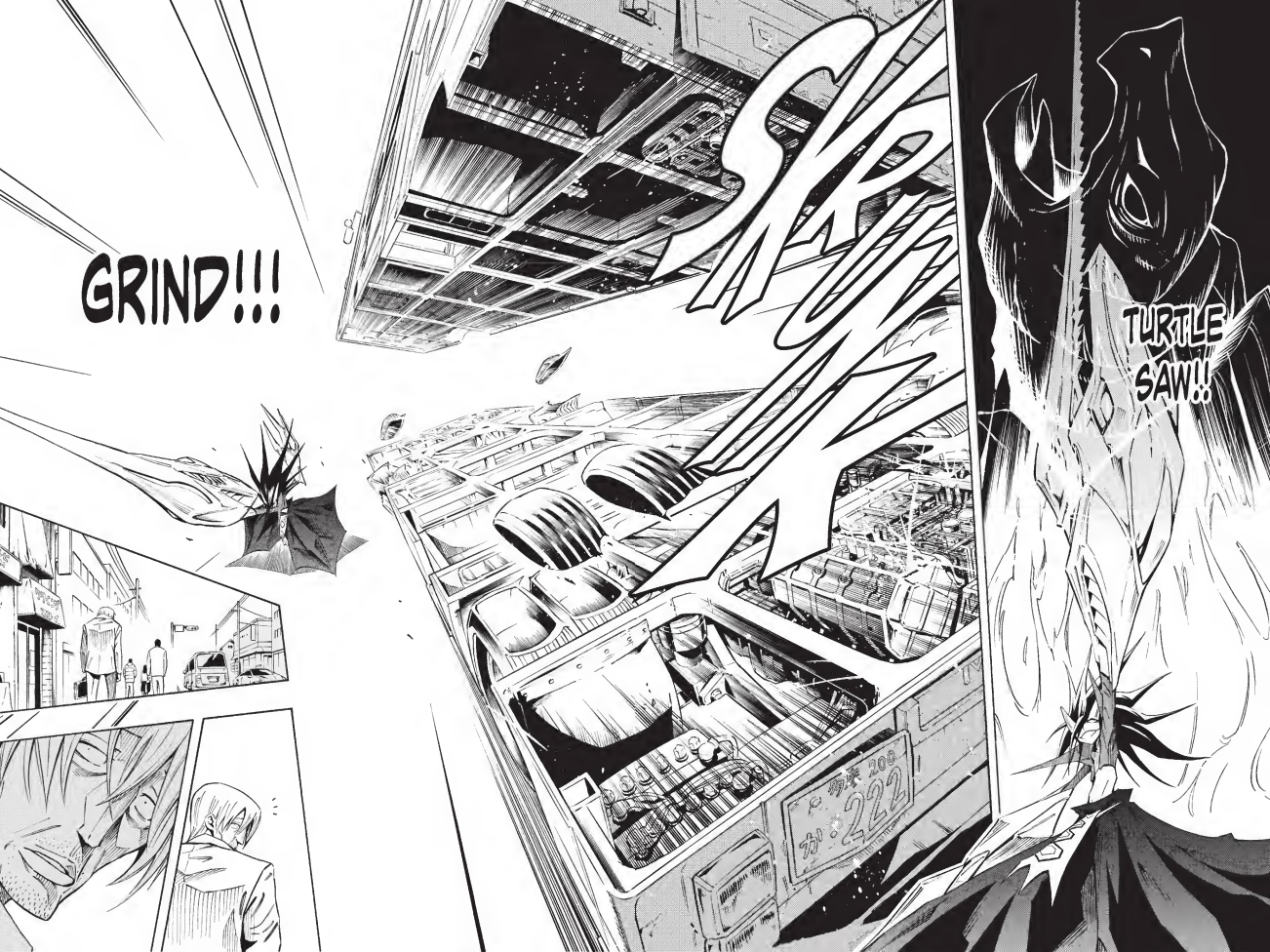


WHAAT?!



...
AGARI
YAMATO.

GRIND!!!



TURTLE
SAW!!



GYAAAAAH!!







IS THAT
PERSON
FLYING?

IS
THAT
BUS
FLYING?

HEY,
WHAT'S
THAT?!

HIS ARMS
ARE TOO
LONG,
RIGHT?

AN
ACCIDENT?!



LOOK AT THE
ONLOOKERS
THAT HAVE
GATHERED!

IT COULD BE
WELL WORTH
MY WHILE
TO GO ON A
RAMPAGE,
DON'T YOU
THINK, ULTIMO?

HEH
HEH...
MANY
MORE
PEOPLE
THAN
BEFORE,
HUH?



SURELY YOU
HAVEN'T--



VICE
...

...YOU ARE
SO FULL OF
POWER...

HE'S
ALREADY
FOUND A
MASTER.

THIS
ISN'T
GOOD.

WHAT'S IT
GOT TO DO
WITH YOU,
ULTIMO?

HUH?

WHO...

...IS HIS
MASTER?!

WHICH MEANS
HIS MASTER
MUST BE NEARBY.

HEH
HEH
HEH!

OH RIGHT,
YOU COULD
NEVER DO
SOMETHING
SO SNEAKY!

...!

LOOKING
FOR MY
MASTER?

YOU THINK
YOU CAN
STOP HIM
FIRST...

Z
N
G



YOU'RE...

...TOO
GOOD
FOR
THAT.



HEH HEH...
FOOL!
WITHOUT A
MASTER,
YOU HARDLY
HAVE ANY
POWER.



... KOU ...

AND WHAT
CAN YOU DO
WITH BOTH
HANDS BUSY
TRYING TO
PROTECT
BYSTANDERS?



*EVIL, OF
COURSE.*

IF *GOOD*
FOUGHT
EVIL, WHICH
WOULD BE
STRONGER?

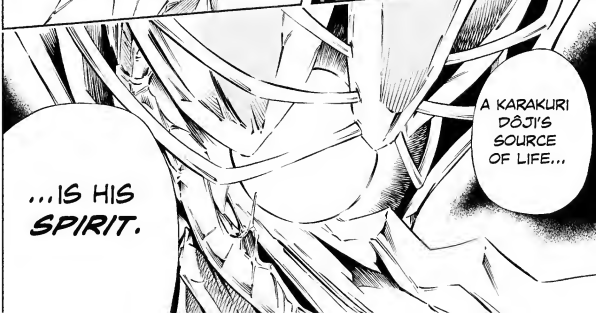


BE
CAREFUL
HOW YOU
MOVE,
ULTIMO.

WHOOOPS.



UNGH...



...IS HIS
SPIRIT.

A KARAKURI
DÔJI'S
SOURCE
OF LIFE...



MY TURTLE
SAW IS
DANGEROUSLY
CLOSE TO
YOUR SPIRIT.

DID YOU
FORGET
THAT IF A
KARAKURI
DÔJI
SPIRIT DIES,
HE STOPS
WORKING?



WE
NEED
TO GET
OUTTA
HERE!

THIS IS
SERIOUS!

WHAT'S
GOING
ON?!

HEY!

YAMATO!

...

WE HAVEN'T
KNOWN EACH
OTHER LONG,
ULTIMO, BUT
WHETHER YOU
CRY OR LAUGH...

HEH
HEH...

...AND THE
WORLD WILL
BE *MINE*.

...YOU'RE
GOING TO
BREAK
NOW...

...ULTIMO.

GOOD-
BYE...



A G H ...

YAMATO-
SAMA...





OH,
GENERAL.

IT'S TOO
LATE TO
PLEDGE
YOUR
DEVOTION.

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING,
YAMATO?!
IT'S
DANGEROUS
TO STAND
THERE!

HW000

KREAR

BE QUIET
AND WATCH
CLOSELY AS
I BREAK
MY ENEMY.

IN THE
BATTLE
BETWEEN
GOOD
AND EVIL,
I'VE GOT
CHECKMATE.

I
WON'T
LET
YOU.

AND THEN
WATCH ME
COME FOR
YOU AND
YOURS!



HE'S
JUST AS
SCATTERED
AS EVER.

DESTROY?
YOU? ME?
WITH THAT
BAG?



SAYAMA?!



...IT'S
TIME
TO DIE,
YAMATO
AGARI.

NO MATTER
HOW YOU
LOOK
AT IT...



YOU'LL DO
ANYTHING
TO PROTECT
WHAT'S
IMPORTANT
TO YOU.

YOU TAKE ULTI
FOR SOMEONE'S
CHILD, AND
YOUR ATTITUDE
TOWARD VICE.
EVERYTHING YOU
DO IS JUST LIKE
IT USED TO BE.

YES...



I WON'T
LET YOU
HURT
SAYAMA!
I'M
GOING TO
DESTROY
YOU!!!

YOU'VE
DIVERTED
VICE'S
ATTENTION
FOR A
MOMENT.

THAT ALONE
MAKES ULTI
HAPPY, AND
GIVES HIM
STRENGTH.



I WILL DRAW
FORTH MY
REMAINING
STRENGTH TO
STRIKE AT HIM.



KARAKURI
HENGE!
CRANE
SWORD!!

EVEN IF IT
COSTS ME
MY LIFE,
I WILL
STOP HIM!

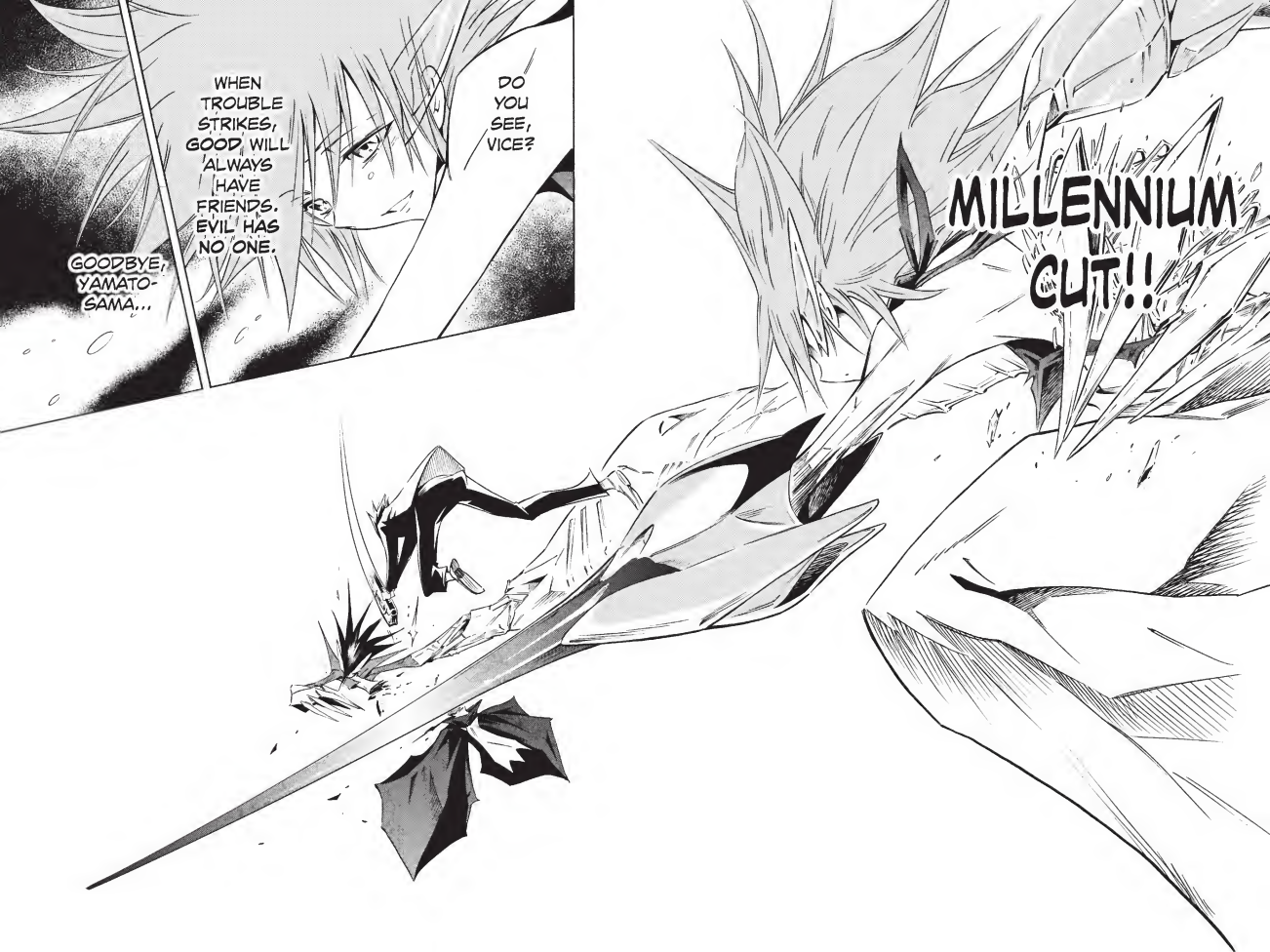




WHEN
TROUBLE
STRIKES,
GOOD WILL
ALWAYS
HAVE
FRIENDS.
EVIL HAS
NO ONE.

DO
YOU
SEE,
VICE?

GOODBYE,
YAMATO-
SAMA...



MILLENNIUM
CUT!!

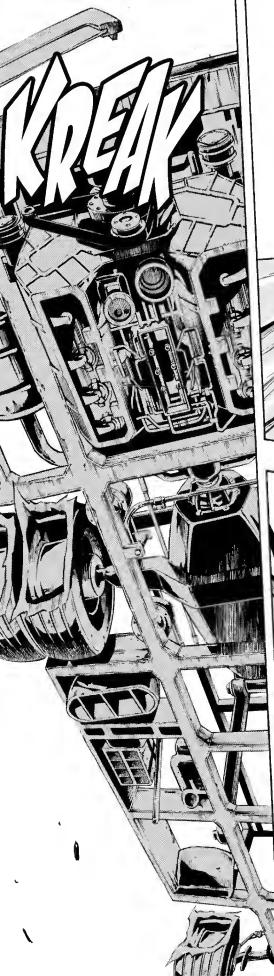


KARAKURIDÔJI
ULTIMO



ACT 3
A BLAZE SURROUNDS YAMATO

KARAKURIDÔJI
ULTIMO







K (31) Unemployed



ULTIMO
...?



AND HE
LOOKS
BROKEN.



HE'S LIKE
A PUPPET
AGAIN.
HE CAN'T
MOVE.



WEIRD...





YOU MAY
CALL ME
THE VICE
MASTER.





AFTER
ALL
I'VE
DONE,
HOW
COULD
I *NOT*
KNOW
THEM?

NOT VERY
BRIGHT,
ARE YOU?



YOU
KNOW
THESE
TWO?!

VICE
MASTER
?!
?!



AFTER I WENT
TO ALL THE
TROUBLE OF
FIXING IT,
YOU RUINED
IT AGAIN.

I DON'T
NEED TO
TELL YOU
ANY MORE
THAN THAT.

URGH

HUH?!

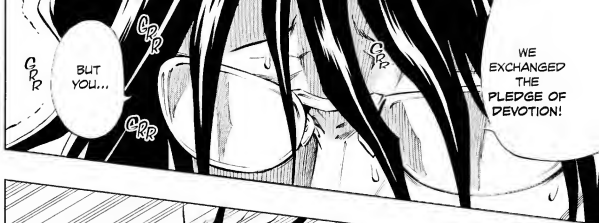
THIS
JERK...



NOTHING
COULD
STOP ME!

I QUIT MY
JOB AND
RENTED A
ROOM.

WITH VICE IN
MY POWER,
I NEVER
WOULD HAVE
HAD TO WORK
AGAIN!



CR

BUT
YOU...

CR

CR

CR

WE
EXCHANGED
THE
PLEDGE OF
DEVOTION!



...BROKE,
YOU
STUPID
DOLL!

GIVE IT
BACK!
THAT'S
84,000
YEN
FOR 12
MONTHS
!!!

WHAT
ARE YOU
GONNA DO
ABOUT MY
JOB, MY
RENT?!

H
U
H
?!

WHAT
WOULD
MY
GRANDMA
THINK?!!!

YOU MADE
ALL THIS
MESS!

WHAT IF
I GOT
ARRESTED?

HEY.

FIRST
HE'S
CREEPY,
THEN HE
THROWS
A FIT...

WHAT IS
WITH THIS
GUY?

G
A
A
A
A
H
!!!



...WAY
TOO MANY
QUESTIONS
FOR THIS
GUY. I WANT
ANSWERS, K!

I'VE
GOT...

YAMATO!
DON'T
ATTACK
PEOPLE!

KICKING
SOMEONE
WHO CAN'T
MOVE?!
ONE MINUTE
AGO HE WAS
TALKING AND
STUFF!

SHUT UP,
RUNE!!!

KNOCK
IT OFF,
CREEP!!!

ニニニ

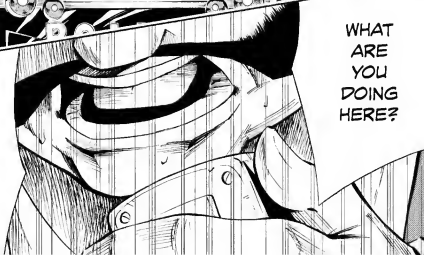


ARE YOU
THAT
WEAK?!

YOU'RE
PASSING
OUT?!!



YOU
KIDS DID
ALL THIS?!
NO WAY!



WHAT
ARE
YOU
DOING
HERE?

...WILL
NOT LET
YOU OFF
EASY!!!

IF YOU REALLY
DID ALL THIS, I,
POLICE INSPECTOR
DARUMADA OF THE
TANASHI POLICE
DEPARTMENT...

BA

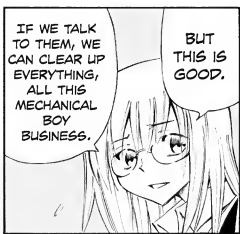
Darumada Masami (44)

Heh heh
heh!
Hey, Boss...

ANOTHER
FACE I
KNOW!!!

HUH?

SHUT UP!
I'VE GOT
ENOUGH TO
WORRY ABOUT
WITHOUT YOU
STARTING IN!



IF WE TALK
TO THEM, WE
CAN CLEAR UP
EVERYTHING,
ALL THIS
MECHANICAL
BOY
BUSINESS.

BUT
THIS IS
GOOD.



GASP

WAAAH!
WHAT DO
WE DO,
YAMATO?
THE POLICE
ARE HERE!



NNK...



I TRIED TO
CATCH HIM,
BUT HE BEAT
ME UP AND
TOOK ME
HOSTAGE...

HELP ME,
INSPECTOR.
THIS GUY
BLEW UP
THE BUS.

NNGH...

...GGHH...



HEY!
LIAR!



DON'T
MOVE
!!!



W
H
A
A
A
A
T
?!!

I'M
ARRESTING
YOU FOR
ASSAULT
AND
BATTERY.

WE'LL TALK
OVER THE
DETAILS AT
THE STATION.



VS
SHAK



SERVES
YOU RIGHT,
AGARI
YAMATO.

HEH
HEH
HEH!



A
GUN?



...UNDERSTAND
WHY THAT SWEET
LITTLE KARAKURI
DŌJI, FULL OF
GOODNESS, WOULD
TAKE SOMEONE AS
VIOLENT AS YOU
FOR A MASTER.

I
CAN'T...



...WHO IS THIS
SAYAMA YOU
WERE YELLING
ABOUT? YOUR
GIRLFRIEND?

BUT...



?!
?



SHE CAN'T
BE YOUR
GIRLFRIEND...

HEH
HEH!

...BUT I
BET SHE'S
CUTE.

I'M
JEALOUS.

HUH?!
SHE'S GOT
NOTHING
TO DO
WITH YOU!



WHILE
YOU'RE IN
CONFINEMENT.



I'D
LIKE TO
MEET
HER.

HUF

HUFF

HUFFF



YOU
JERK!!!



HOW
LONG
ARE YOU
GOING TO
SLEEP,
VICE?

HEY!





HE MUST
PROTECT
HIS MASTER
AND FULFILL
HIS MASTER'S
WISHES.

UNTIL HE
FULFILLS
HIS FINAL
ROLE, A
KARAKURI DŌJĠ
MUST OBEY
HIS MASTER.



...BUT MY
GAME HAS
JUST BEGUN.

IT MAY
TAKE
SOME
TIME TO
REPAIR
HIM...



'TIL WE
MEET
AGAIN!

THOUGH
I'D
REALLY
RATHER
WE
DIDN'T.

WHOSH!



...

(SENJO ACADEMY)



AND
THEN
GUESS
WHAT!

A
MONSTER!

HE
FLEW
AWAY!



...



HE WAS
FLYING!
AND HIS
ARMS
WERE
REEEALLY
LONG!

THE
BUS
GOT
BASHED
IN
TWO!



...AWE-
SOME!!!

IT
WAS...

Oume Hibari (16)



Matsumoto Kiyose (17)



Otake Akitsu (16)



GOOD
MORNING,
EVERYONE!

HEY,
WHAT'S
THAT
MEEAAAAN?

SORRY...

UM, I NEED
A FAVOR, UME.
CAN YOU TRY TO
TALK A LITTLE
LESS CRAZY?
NO ONE UNDER-
STANDS YOU.



ICIN.

WHAT
DON'T
YOU
GET?

WHAD-
DAYA
MEAN,
HUH?



ANYWAY,
ISN'T TODAY
SAYAMA'S
BIRTHDAY?

OH, RIGHT!
EVERYONE'S
GOING TO
THE PARTY,
RIGHT?

AH HA HA!
OH, NOTHING!
IT WAS
NOTHING!



二校生の始

一校生の始



I
HOPE
HE'S
ALL
RIGHT.



...I SAW
YAMATO
COMING
TO
SCHOOL
LIKE
NORMAL.

BUT...

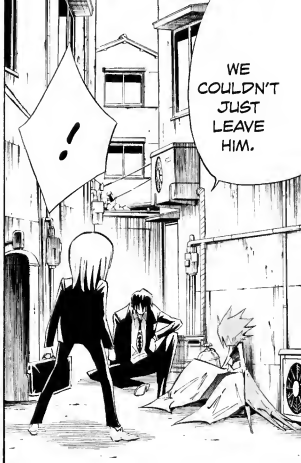




HE TRIED
TO HELP
US.



THAT COP
LOOKED DIRTY.
YOU WANT HIM
TO HAVE
ULTIMO?



WE
COULDN'T
JUST
LEAVE
HIM.



WHAT
ARE YOU
GONNA
DO?!!!

SO
WHAT?



...TO
FIX
HIM.

I'M
GOING
...

YOU'RE
GOING TO
REPAIR A
ROBOT?
THIS IS
RIDICULOUS!

WHAT,
YOU
DON'T
THINK I
CAN?



I THINK
HE HAS
A HEART.

HE'S NOT
JUST A
ROBOT.

RUNE.



YAMATO...

SO DON'T
CALL IT
REPAIR.







...SIMPLY BY PRETENDING
TO FORGET ABOUT THAT
OLD GUY DUNSTAN, THAT
DIRTY COP, K'AND--
MOST OF ALL--THE
MECHANICAL BOYS...
THE... THE KARAKURI DŌJŌ!

THIS
WON'T
END...

THE FIRST
THING TO
DO IS FIX
ULTIMO.

AND I HAVE
AN IDEA HOW
TO DO THAT.

I WON'T
LET HIM
LAY A
FINGER ON
SAYAMA!!!



I GOT HOME
BY THE
BACK
ROADS.

47

ALL
RIGHT.



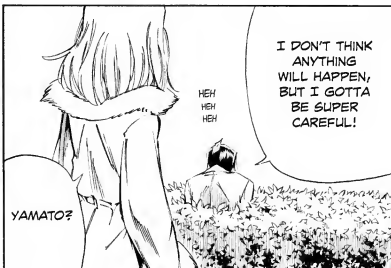
NOW I JUST
HAVE TO MAKE
IT TO MY ROOM
WITHOUT LETTING
ANYONE SEE ME.



YAMATO?

HEH
HEH
HEH

I DON'T THINK
ANYTHING
WILL HAPPEN,
BUT I GOTTA
BE SUPER
CAREFUL!





Wait,
you're not...
going
number
two out
here are
you?!

WHY
AREN'T
YOU AT
SCHOOL?



NO...
OF
COURSE
NOT,
I'M...



CAN YOU
JUST GET
THROUGH
GRADUATION?



GASP!
MOM!!!

Agari Fushimi (32)

I'VE ALWAYS
TAKEN CARE
OF YOU...
AND BY MYSELF
I MIGHT ADD.
SO THE VERY
LEAST YOU CAN
DO IS NOT WASTE
WHAT I'VE PAID
TO YOUR
SCHOOL.

FINE.

IF I
DON'T GET
ARRESTED...

PROBABLY.

...DON'T BRING
YOUR WEIRD
FRIENDS INTO
YOUR ROOM.

AND...

And don't
go number
two outside...

I'LL BE
LATE AGAIN
TONIGHT, SO
EAT WHATEVER
YOU LIKE FOR
DINNER.

IF SHE'D
BEEN IN A
BAD MOOD,
SHE'D HAVE
KICKED MY
BUTT!

THAT WAS
CLOSE!
I DIDN'T
EXPECT
TO BUMP
INTO MOM!

WHEW,
I GOT
LUCKY!

SURE...

Well, yeah,
about that
number two
thing...

SO,
ULTI...

OKAY,
I'M
IN MY
ROOM.

ULTIMO...

SO HE'S
NOT DEAD.

UH-OH,
THESE
INJURIES
ARE
REALLY
BAD.

BUT WHEN
WE WERE
OUT IN THE
DARK ALLEYS,
I COULD SEE
HIS SPIRIT
SPHERE
SHINING
FAINTLY.

...BUT AFTER
HE HUGGED
YOU, HE WAS
ALL CLEAN
AND SHINY..

FIRST HE
WAS ALL
BEAT-UP
AND DIRTY...

DID
YOU
SEE?

ULTI WOKE
UP BECAUSE
YOU CAME
WITHIN HIS
RANGE.

DON'T
EXPECT
MUCH.

ONCE THAT
HAPPENS,
THERE'S
LITTLE
HOPE OF
RECOVERY.

...ONCE I DO
SOME SPECIFIC
THING, YOU WILL
RECOVER ON
YOUR OWN.

WHICH
MEANS...

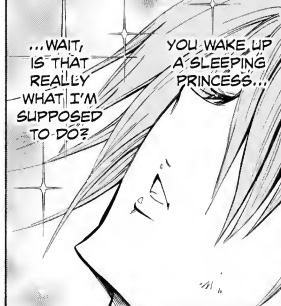
BUT WHAT
IS THAT?
WHAT'S
IT MEAN?
WHAT DO
I DO?!!

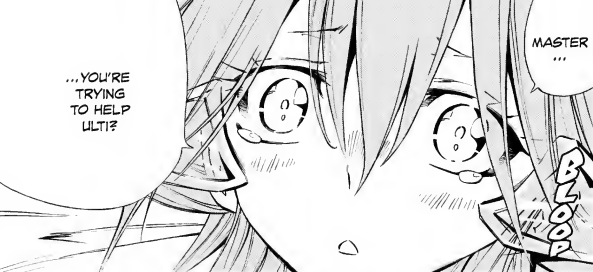
...IS
RENEW THE
PLEDGE OF
DEVOTION.

THE
ONLY
THING
TO
DO...

Gulp



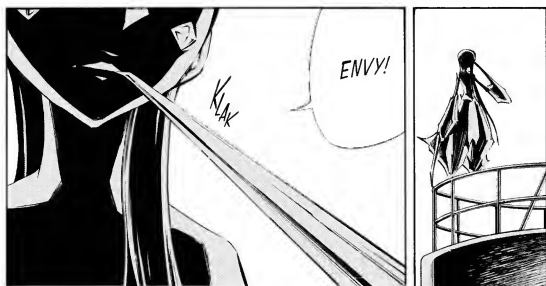






AGH!







KARAKURIDÔJI
ULTIMO



...THE TIME
HAS COME TO
TOPPLE THE
NOBILITY!

TONIGHT
WE TAKE
THE CAPITAL
BY STORM.

ACT 4 A DREAM OF RASEIMON

ARE
YOU...

...READY?

Yamato (19): Bāndit



ACT 4
A DREAM OF RASEIMON



AS THE
NOBILITY
GROWS
MORE
CORRUPT...

...MORE
PEOPLE
OPPOSE
THEM.

AND
NOW...



RAAAA H
YAAH
YAAAAH

YEAH.
IN THREE
YEARS...

HA HA!
CHIEF
BOSS
DID
GOOD.

...OUR SMALL
BAND HAS
GROWN TO
AN ARMY!



...WE
HAVE
HIM.

THAT OLD
MAN LEFT US
SOMETHING
INCREDIBLE.

ULTIMO.





...PLEASE
KEEP ULTI BY
YOUR SIDE,
YAMATO-SAMA.

UNTIL I
LEARN...



ULTI...





THE
PALACES
OF THE
NOBILITY
LIE
BEYOND.

RASEIMON
GATE.



ONCE THIS
WAS THE
CAPITAL'S
GLORIOUS
MAIN GATE.

IT'S
ABANDONED
AND ROTTING.
VICTIMS OF
PLAGUE LIE
EVERYWHERE.



WHAT A
WRECK.



HOWEVER
DESOLATE
THE LAND IS,
DON'T DROP
YOUR GUARD.

ULTI AND I
WILL BREAK
THROUGH.





CHARGE!!!



GRAAAAAH!!!

...A NEW
STYLE OF
COMBO
FIGHT THAT
WAS THREE
YEARS
IN THE
MAKING!

WE'LL
SHOW
YOU...



YOU
MAY NOT
PASS
THIS
GATE.

I ENVY
YOU.

THAT'S
FAR
ENOUGH.

KARAKURI
HENGE!



WHAT?!

KUMOKIRIMARU!
SPIDER SLAYER!!

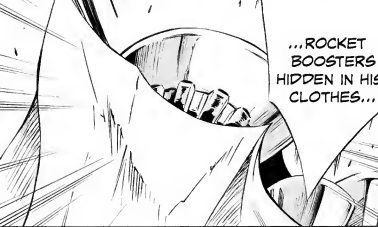
HOW?!





I THOUGHT
VICE AND
ULTI WERE
THE ONLY
TWO!

ULTIMATE
GOOD
AND
ULTIMATE
EVIL!



...ROCKET
BOOSTERS
HIDDEN IN HIS
CLOTHES...



BUT HE
HAS TRANS-
FORMING BLUE
GAUNTLETS...



...AND
KARAKURI
DÔJI PINK
VISORS!!!



Tump

THERE IS
ANOTHER?!!

HE'S A
KARAKURI
DÔJI!!!



FOR ONE
THING TO
FLOURISH,
ANOTHER
MUST
SUFFER.



...AND
PERFECT
CANNOT
COEXIST.



HE IS
JEALOUSY.

THIS BOY,
WHO IS
AKIN TO EVIL,
COMPENSATES
FOR THAT.

DUNSTAN'S
NEWEST
CREATION
BELONGS
TO ME!

DADUN



A DÔJI IS
STRONGEST
WHEN CLOSE
TO HIS MASTER,
BUT ALSO MORE
DANGEROUS.

THE DÔJI
MUST THEN
HOLD BACK.
AND YOU LOOK
RIDICULOUS JOINED
AT THE HIP,
BY THE WAY.



JEALOUSY.



WHAT?!

YOU'RE
ARROGANT
FOR SOME-
ONE SO
STUPID!



...SEVERAL
NEW DÔJI AND
DISTRIBUTED
THEM THROUGH-
OUT TIME.

WITH UNCOMMON
SKILL AND UNCEASING
EXPERIMENTATION,
DR. DUNSTAN
HAS CREATED...



BEFORE WE
EVEN FIGHT,
YOU ARE
ALREADY
OBSOLETE...

...MY
BROTHER.

ULTI...!

SEE?

YOUR
MOVEMENT
IS SLOW,
SO YOUR
PRECIOUS
MASTER
WAS OPEN
TO ATTACK.

URGH...!

AGH!

!



TALK LIKE
THAT AND
I CAN'T
TELL WHICH
OF US IS
EVIL!

OOH,
I'M
SCARED.



LOWER
YOUR
GAUNTLET,
JEALOUSY!



THE GREAT
BATTLE
ACROSS
ALL TIME
AND SPACE
BETWEEN
GOOD AND
EVIL IS
COMING.

I WILL NOT
FALTER.



ONE
HUNDRED DÔJI
IN EVERY FORM
IMAGINABLE
IN BATTLE!

THE
HUNDRED
MACHINE
FUNERAL.



THEY FIGHT ONLY
TO PROVE WHICH
IS STRONGER,
GOOD OR EVIL.

DID YOU
THINK THE
DÔJI SERVE
ONLY YOU?



HUNDRED
MACHINE
FUNERAL?!



SO OF
COURSE,
I, YOUR
OPPONENT,
ALSO HAVE
A DÔJI.

OTHERWISE
THE FIGHT
WOULD NOT
BE FAIR.



THAT OLD
MAN WAS
PLANNING
THIS ALL
ALONG!



ARGH!



...BUT I
WILL MAKE
FULL USE
OF MINE.



DÔJI
SERVE
THEIR
MASTERS
ONLY A
SHORT
TIME...

AND THAT
LEGEND WILL
PROPEL ME
INTO THE
RULING
CLASS.

AN UNKNOWN
NOBLE OF
LOW RANK
WILL STAND
ALONE AGAINST
THE BANDITS.
AND HE WILL
DEFEAT
THEM.

...UNSCRUPULOUS.

YOU
ARE...

MAYBE.
BUT THE
PEOPLE...

...WILL
CALL ME
GOOD.

Iruma Tomomitsu (48)
Unscrupulous noble

TSUCHIGUMO!
GROUND
SPIDER!!

KARAKURI
HENGE!

...LET US
SHOW THE
TRUE WAY
A MASTER
AND HIS
DÔJI
FIGHT!

ALL
RIGHT,
JEAL-
OUSY
...

WHAP

KATHAK



ALL
RIGHT
THEN,
LET'S
FIGHT
!!!



GRANWUR!



HMM...



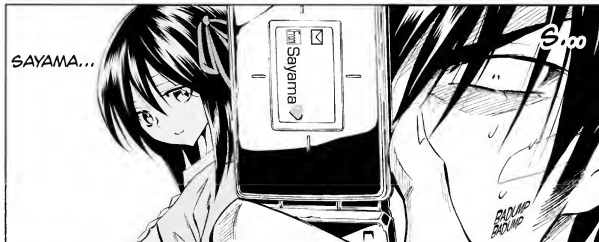


THAT
MUST
MEAN
SAYAMA
REALLY
DID--



...AND IT
WASN'T!!!

IT WAS
A DREAM...



SAYAMA...

From Sayama ♥
Sub About today...

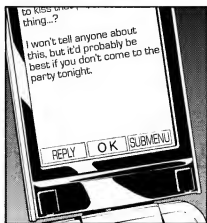
Yamato,

Sorry for suddenly showing
up in your room today. I
looked several times but



Yamato,

Sorry for suddenly showing up in your room today. I knocked several times, but you didn't answer, so I opened the door.



It looked like you were going to kiss that puppet doll thing...?

I won't tell anyone about this, but it'd probably be best if you don't come to the party tonight.

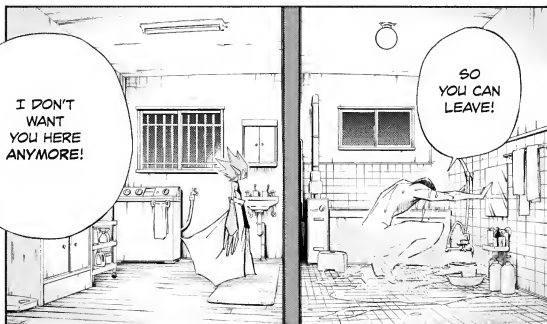


MY
LIFE...

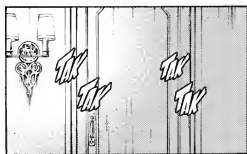
IT'S
OVER.

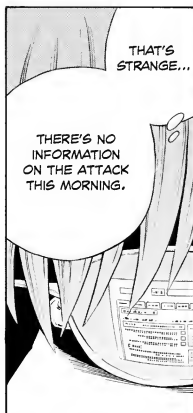
...IS
OVER
!!!













IF WHAT
THAT OLD
ANTIQUES
DEALER
SAID IS
TRUE...

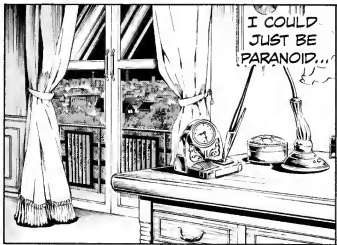
THIS
CHILD
FELL
FROM
THE
SKY.



...SOMEONE
IS COVERING
THIS UP!!



...BUT, IF
I'M RIGHT,
YAMATO IS IN
DANGER!!!



I COULD
JUST BE
PARANOID...



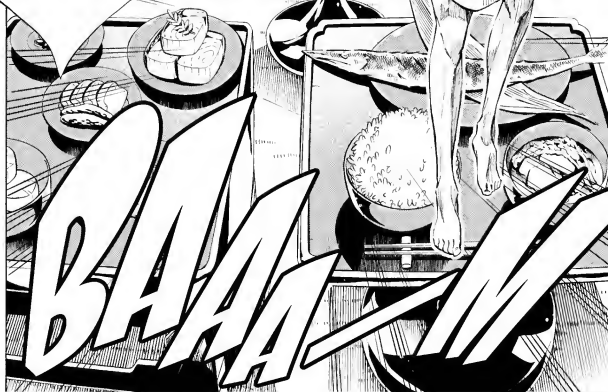
ACHOO!

UGH,
I'VE GOT
A COLD.

HM?

WH...

WHAT'S
ALL
THIS?!!





WHO
MADE
THIS?

WAIT!

IT'S SIMPLE,
BUT THE CHEF
HAS SKILLFULLY
DRAWN FORTH
THE FLAVOR OF
THE INGREDIENTS
FOR AN INCOM-
PARABLE SAVORY
EXPERIENCE!

TASTES
SOOOOO
GOOD--

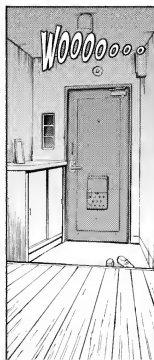


THIS
TASTES
AWE-
SOME
!!!



IT
MUST
HAVE
BEEN
HIM!

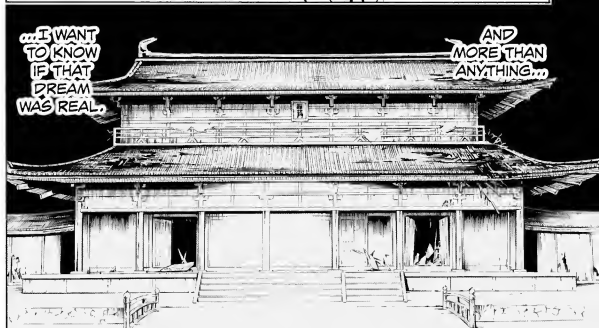
MOM'S
COOKING
ISN'T THIS
GOOD.



Wooooooo



HEY,
ULTI--









BEST TO KILL
HIM IN THE
MOUNTAINS...

...DON'T
YOU
THINK?



*THAT'S
ENOUGH,
JEALOUSY.*

THIS IS A
DIFFERENT
AGE. IT
ISN'T AS EASY
TO CONCEAL
DEATHS.

!!!

...IN THE
POSTERS.

正義の救世主

究極無所属

光智人間

いるまともみす

YOU'RE
THE GUY...

カイゼル

CHANCE

SENJO HIGH
SCHOOL,
YEAR TWO.
PARENTS LIVE
SEPARATELY.
LIVES WITH
HIS MOTHER.

AGARI
YAMATO
...

YOU
BARELY
MAKE
ENDS
MEET.
YOUR
LIFE IS
ROUGH.

HA
HA
HA!

THE
ELECTION
POSTERS?

YOU CAN'T
COME IN
HERE.

THESE
DAYS I'M
THANKFUL IF
EVEN IDIOTS
LIKE YOU
NOTICE
THEM.





KARAKURIDÔJI
ULTIMO

CHARACTER DATA COMPILATION

KARAKURI ILLUSTRATED PROFILES

1



機巧童子とは…その1

機巧童子は人間の「善」と「悪」、そしてそのどちらが強いのかを知るためにダンスタン博士によって開発された童子型の機巧人形である。

童子は無垢な者の象徴であり、これが彼らが純粋な「善」と「悪」であることを示している。これは同時に彼らが学習型のロボットであることも意味する。

彼らは未完成であり、「殿」と呼ばれる人間を任意に選出することで共に行動し、時代と地域を越えたあらゆる人間の「善」と「悪」を学んでいくのだ。

…続く



What is a Karakuri Dôji? Part 1

Mechanical dolls that look like children, the Karakuri Dôji were designed by Dr. Dunstan to find out about good and evil from humans—and to discover which is stronger.

Dôji are untainted beings. They can be either pure good or pure evil. They are robots designed to learn.

But Dôji are incomplete. They must choose a human master to accompany, in order to acquire the human traits of good and evil that transcend time and space.

To be continued...

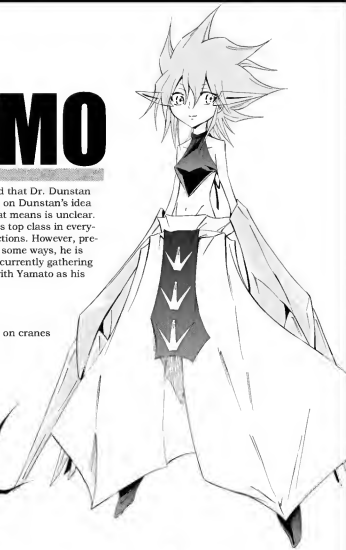
ULTIMO

ウルティモ

The first Karakuri Dôji of Good that Dr. Dunstan created. His actions are based on Dunstan's idea of "good," but exactly what that means is unclear. Just as his name implies, he is top class in everything from appearance to functions. However, precisely because he is perfect in some ways, he is lacking in many others. He is currently gathering information about goodness with Yamato as his master.

His theme color is scarlet.

His Karakuri Henge are based on cranes and lions.



VICE

バイス

The first Karakuri Dôji of Evil, created together with Ultimo. He is a clone possessing the exact same capabilities as Ultimo, but his purpose is the exact opposite. Thus, he bears a name meaning evil. He serves his master in order to learn about evil and gain evil energy, and otherwise acts only under a variety of evil impulses.

His theme color is that of iron. [Usually Vice is associated with green, but here it says his theme color is "iron(or steel)-color."]

His Karakuri Henge are based on turtles and demons.





YAMATO

AGARI YAMATO

東大和

Born Nov. 15, Scorpio, Blood type O, 16 years old

The main hero. He is immensely enthusiastic and kind, but always gets himself into trouble. He currently lives with his mother in public housing.

His favorite thing is Sayama.

RUNE

小平ルネ

KODAIRA RUNE

Born Feb. 4, Aquarius, Blood type AB, 16 years old

A boy in glasses who adores Yamato. His family is rich and he's an excellent student. He's extremely serious, but a little too inflexible. Later on, his character will develop in a surprising way.

His favorite thing is sweets with whipped cream on top.



SAYAMA SAN

狭山 真夢

SAYAMA MAKOTO

Born May 5, Taurus, Blood type A, 17 years old

A cool and mysterious high school girl who always keeps her head about her. Capable of taking bold action, she has rescued Yamato from crises many times in the past, but her cold reactions deliver even deeper psychological damage.

Her favorite things are mushrooms and cheese.



K

ケー

Born May 31, Gemini, Blood type A, 31 years old

A man in glasses who dreams of being evil. A short-tempered person of low caliber, when he gets flustered he doesn't know what's happening and starts trembling.

His favorite things are motorcycles and heavy metal. He feeds the sparrows on his veranda.



DUNSTAN

ダンスタン

Born Dec. 28, Capricorn, Blood type O, ? years old

Another man in glasses, unidentified and shrouded in mystery. He is a joker-type character who created the Karakuri Dôji, thus giving to the series a wide variety of characters.

His favorite thing is...a secret.



STAN LEE

As a kid, Stanley Martin Lieber spent a lot of time dreaming up wild adventures. By the time he got to high school, he was putting his imagination to work writing stories at Timely, a publishing company that went on to become the legendary Marvel Comics. Starting with the *Fantastic Four*, Lee and his partner Jack Kirby created just about every superhero you can think of, including *Spider-Man*, the *X-Men*, the *Hulk*, *Iron Man*, *Daredevil* and *Thor*. Along the way, he wrote under a lot of pen names, but the one that stuck was Stan Lee.

HIROYUKI TAKEI

Unconventional author/artist Hiroyuki Takei began his career by winning the coveted Hop Step Award (for new manga artists) and the Osamu Tezuka Cultural Prize (named after the famous artist of the same name). After working as an assistant to famed artist Nobuhiro Watsuki, Takei debuted in *Weekly Shonen Jump* in 1997 with *Butsu Zone*, an action series based on Buddhist mythology. His multicultural adventure manga *Shaman King*, which debuted in 1998, became a hit and was adapted into an anime TV series. Takei lists Osamu Tezuka, American comics and robot anime among his many influences.

ULTIMO

Volume 1

Original Concept: Stan Lee
Story and Art by: Hiroyuki Takei

SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

This graphic novel contains material that was originally published in English in *SHONEN JUMP* #79-82. Artwork in the magazine may have been slightly altered from that presented here.

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www.viz.com



www.shonenjump.com



CREATOR INTERVIEW

HIROYUKI TAKEI: How did you come up with the ideas for *Ultimo*?

STAN LEE: I don't know. I was trying to do something that would be good for the Japanese audience as well as an American audience. There aren't too many robots here in America. I didn't know if they had a good robot fighting the bad ones in Japan and thought maybe this idea would be good for both countries. So I said, "Well, why not? I'll write it, and we'll see what they say."

When I saw your first drawings, they made me think of many new things. I got so excited about them that I was really thrilled to be working with an artist like you.

HK: What made you want to collaborate with a Japanese manga and comic artist?

SL: I love Japanese manga, and I know how popular it is, certainly in Japan, but even in America. I've never done anything with manga. I don't like to think there is anything that I haven't done, so I was really eager to do something, and to do it with the best artist possible. That was, you know, something I couldn't resist.

HK: You have the rough page layouts. What did you think when you first saw them?

SL: It's very hard for me to understand them because storyboards in America look a little different. They're tighter and they're more complete. The Japanese layouts are very rough, so it's gonna take me a while to get used to looking at that type of storyboard. Of course, I need English to understand what I'm looking at. It's a little hard to tell because I don't read Japanese as well as I used to. [Laughter]

HK: Stick figures are actually what it comes down to because we have to produce 19 pages a week.

SL: That's a tremendous amount. I mean, when I was doing comic books years ago, our books were originally 64 pages in the 1930s. Then they got whittled down to 48 pages, and finally by the 60s they were only 32 pages. Now, of the 32 pages, 8 or so were ads. There ended up being about 20 or 22 pages of actual comics, and we had to do that in a month. For you people to do all of this in one week, I think that is absolutely amazing. And to have it turn out as good as it does, I think you're all geniuses.

HK: Everyone does it in Japan.

SL: No wonder you always look so tired. The difference is, we only did 20 pages a month, but I was writing between 12 and 20 comic books a month. So we did quite a lot, too. You know, there was Spider-Man, The Hulk, The X-Men and so on.

HK: What do you think of Japanese manga?

SL: I love it! That's why I wanted to do this. I love the way the stories flow. I love the characters. I love everything about it. I just hope that I can write it as well as what I've read in Japanese manga. But I'm gonna do my best.

HK: Lastly, do you have a message for SHONEN JUMP readers?

SL: Oh, absolutely. Save your money and go out there and buy as many copies of *Ultimo* as you possibly can. Don't just buy one, because they're gonna be worth a lot of money in the future. So buy a lot of them and save them. Now, I have a question for you. Why are you sitting here wasting all this time when you should be working on *Ultimo* and getting that out as fast as possible?! [Laughter]

